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1968-70

BIENNIAL REPORT

of the

STATE COUNCIL OF CIVIL DEFENSE

(July 1, 1968 - June 30, 1970)

I. INTRODUCTION

The State Council of Civil Defense is legally charged with responsibility for the development and maintenance of a comprehensive plan and program for the civil defense of the Commonwealth, the same to be integrated into and coordinated with Federal civil defense plans and programs to the fullest possible extent (Subsection 4a of the State Council of Civil Defense Act of 1951, P.L. 28, as amended).

During the period July 1, 1968 through June 30, 1970, the Council continued the conduct of a basic emergency preparedness program consistent with general policies prescribed by the Federal Office of Civil Defense. It was aimed at the maximum practical degree of human safety under enemy attack and in natural disasters.

The over-all level of agency activities during the two-year period was roughly the same as for the immediately previous biennium. This reflects, in the main, conditions existing during a period marked by no major changes in national defense policies, by a fairly constant degree of international tension and by the occurrence of no natural disasters of major proportions within the Commonwealth.

A brief summary of essential information concerning major agency activities and accomplishments is presented in the following sections of this report.



## II. NEW FACILITIES

New headquarters for the Council's three geographical Areas were constructed and occupied during the biennium. They are located at the Hamburg State School and Hospital for the Eastern Area, at Selinsgrove State School and Hospital for the Central Area and at Indiana University of Pennsylvania for the western portion of the State.

These new quarters are underground and connect with the basement areas of adjacent State facilities. They consist of an operations room, specialized communications equipment, emergency power and other basic features which provide all the essential facilities both for safe human occupancy under radiation fallout conditions and for effective direction and control of emergency operations necessitated by enemy attack or natural disasters.

## III. WARNING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Steps to update and enhance the agency's warning and communications capability continued during the 1968-70 period.

Radio Station "WHP" has installed a "Remote Pick-Up" Unit in the State Emergency Operating Center, thus providing radio input to their Cumberland and Dauphin County transmitter sites. These radio facilities are in addition to previously installed telephone line facilities between the State Emergency Operating Center and the WHP Studios in downtown Harrisburg.

A private-line teletype service was installed between the State Emergency Operating Center and the Communications Office of the Pennsylvania Game Commission. This system provides a rapid, written, emergency and administrative communication capability.

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Coincidental with the occupancy of the three new underground Area Emergency Operating Centers in January, February and May of 1970, emergency warning and communication capabilities were greatly improved from the standpoint of State to Area and Area to County radio communications. Each Area Headquarters is provided with a 100-KW automatic diesel-fueled generator having a 14-day plus operating capability.

The procurement of four amateur radio transceivers for the State and Area Emergency Operating Centers greatly enhances their capability to communicate by radiotelegraph, radiotelephone or radioteletype.

#### IV. SHELTER

During the biennium, there has been a net gain of 1,196 in the number of public fallout shelters established at various points throughout the State. These facilities will provide protection from fallout radiation for an additional 772,000 individuals, for a total in the State of 14,895,000 persons.

The life essentials stored in these additional public fallout shelters - food, water, medical and sanitation kits, and radiation detection instruments - are sufficient to care for an additional 411,000 individuals for a period of two weeks, for a total in the State of 3,543,000 persons, or a proportionately larger number of persons for a shorter period of time.

During this two-year period, eleven of the more densely populated counties of the State have completed detailed fallout shelter utilization plans under contracts with the Federal Government. This brings the total number of such contracts completed to 13. These planning projects were wholly financed by the Federal Government. In addition, six of the less





densely populated counties have completed fallout shelter plans with advice and assistance from the State Council of Civil Defense and Region Two, Office of Civil Defense. At this time, therefore, a total of 19 counties have completed their fallout shelter utilization plans. An additional five counties are engaged in the preparation of such plans.

#### V. RADIOLOGICAL DEFENSE

Radiological defense activities conducted during the two-year period were devoted primarily toward improvement and moderate expansion of existing State, county and local radiation monitoring capabilities. Such activities included the supply of additional equipment for both fallout monitoring station and shelter use, the operation of an instrument maintenance and calibration shop, and routine and specialized training of personnel.

During the biennium, 186 additional fallout monitoring stations were established, while more than 10,000 added survey instruments were provided for the use of county and local civil defense organizations, plus State and Federal Departments and Agencies involved with radiological defense activities, throughout the State. These additions brought the total number of fallout monitoring stations to more than 2,500 and the total number of survey instruments on hand to more than 45,000. The latter are supplemented by roughly 145,000 dosimeters, or "personal protection meters", required for use by people working in areas contaminated by radiological fallout.

#### VI. MEDICAL FACILITIES

In the medical field, the Council continued to emphasize proper storage and effective utilization of the 165 Packaged Disaster Hospital units stored at strategic locations throughout the State. The specially designed units are intended for use both under enemy attack and in natural disasters.





Each unit consists of a complete 200-bed emergency hospital with X-ray machine, operating rooms, laboratory, pharmacy, electric power generators and special water supply equipment. During the biennium nineteen (19) older type hospital units were replaced with models of improved design and twelve (12) additional Hospital Reserve Disaster Inventory supply units were placed throughout the State. These supply units provide participating hospitals with the means of maintaining a 30-day supply of critical medical supplies for use in the event of a disaster.

In continuance of the special nurses' training program inaugurated in 1952, Council staff members conducted one additional three-day instructor course certifying 55 individuals who subsequently will train other nurses in the basic principles of emergency mass care. Along similar lines, agency staff personnel also conducted 14 additional one-day seminars on general disaster nursing. These were attended by approximately 1,140 registered and licensed practical nurses. An additional 100 persons involved with County Emergency Medical/Health and Welfare Services received in-depth instruction in the emergency operations of these services.

The Council staff made a Statewide survey of blood transfusion equipment encompassing more than 400 medical care facilities. As a result of the survey and by mutual agreement, the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare in coordination with the American Red Cross will place additional emergency blood transfusion equipment to those community hospitals affiliated with the civil defense Packaged Disaster Hospital Program.

## VII. TRAINING

The Council, assisted by two units Federally-funded for the purpose (Office of Civil Defense Education and The Pennsylvania State



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University Unit), continued to strengthen its basic civil defense training program during the biennium. Summary information concerning major accomplishments in this field is presented immediately below.

Under the Council-administered Medical Self-Help Training Program, 7,312 standard training courses were conducted, the majority in secondary schools throughout the Commonwealth. These were successfully completed by 216,251 individuals, bringing the total number of Pennsylvanians trained in 16,008 courses to date to 472,520.

A total of 175 individuals completed training to serve as radiological monitor instructors, in 14 courses conducted during the biennium. This brought the total number of trained instructors within the Commonwealth to 846.

In addition to the special courses conducted by Council staff members (Section V, above) 977 radiological monitors were trained in 69 other classes held during the two-year period. This increased the total trained by the end of the biennium to more than 12,000.

Through June 30, 1970, a total of 133 individuals had received the advanced training required to serve as Radiological Defense Officers with county civil defense organizations. This includes 28 individuals who successfully completed two courses conducted during the 1968-70 biennium.

Of more than 1,400 persons trained to serve as instructors of shelter managers, 274 were qualified in 17 courses held during the biennium. Similarly, of 7,966 trained shelter managers within the Commonwealth, 1,750 received their instruction in 66 classes conducted within the last two years. This includes 150 shelter managers trained for the 11 buildings of Capitol





Park consumating in s shelter exercise on April 28, 1970 for approximately 14,000 state employees.

A total of 18 civil defense administration and management classes were conducted during the biennium. These 24 hour courses graduated 264 individuals, bringing the total number completing such formal instruction to 962.

To assist County and Local government officials in development of increased operational capability in times of disaster, Council prepared a 24 hour course in Civil Defense Operations. This course was presented in 11 locations graduating 286 students. Also aimed toward the mechanics of operations and decision making were seven Emergency Operations Simulation exercises training 430 officials and their support services staff members.

A total of 1,020 individuals completed 36 regular or advanced auxiliary police training classes held during the two year period. This brought the total number of auxiliaries trained to more than 33,800.

Limited numbers of other specialized training courses were also conducted by Council staff members. These included, for example, annual field training for State employees assigned responsibility for manning the Council's 21 civil defense rescue trucks.

In summary, the Council conducted or sponsored more than 7,500 formal civil defense training courses held during the biennium. The total number of individuals completing the ten principal types of instruction was 222,000, or an average of roughly 30 individuals per class.

#### VIII. CONFERENCES FOR PUBLIC OFFICIALS, BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY

Three hour conference type training programs designed to better





acquaint county and local officials with their responsibilities under the State Council of Civil Defense Act of 1951 were conducted in 28 locations attended by 1,424 elected officials and other community leaders.

In cooperation with the Civil Defense Training Units of both The Pennsylvania State University and the Commonwealth Department of Education six hour conference type programs were prepared and presented to encourage and assist school administrators in development of disaster plans. Nine of these Conferences for Educators were conducted for a total of 621 attending school officials.

Similar six hour conferences were prepared and presented by joint effort with the Civil Defense Training Unit of The Pennsylvania State University for management of Business and Industry. Sixteen of these conferences were attended by 987 officials of business, industry and other community leaders.

#### IX. PUBLIC INFORMATION

Aimed at better understanding of disaster problems and effective means of combatting them, the Council continued its extensive but comparatively "low key" public information program. This was centered around the statewide dissemination of informational materials, including the free loan of motion picture films.

Over 500,000 copies of the 92-page citizens handbook entitled "In Time of Emergency" prepared by the Federal Office of Civil Defense were distributed to residents of the state. These handbooks for household use contain essential information concerning protective action in emergencies of all kinds. Similar information was prepared by the Federal Office of



Civil Defense into "In Time of Emergency" Newspaper and Radio kits. These kits were distributed to 271 newspapers and 138 radio stations throughout the state during the biennium.

Also during this period the Council assisted County and Local civil defense organizations in enrollment of interested citizens in the Federal Office of Civil Defense home study course entitled "Civil Defense, U.S.A.". This 15 hour course prepared for orientation of the public on responsibilities and procedures attracted 376 enrollments of whom 165 had been graduated by June 30, 1970.

The Council's film library contains 961 active prints of 138 16 mm motion picture film titles. During the biennium, these films were shown on 25,399 occasions, with a total reported attendance of 1,004,549 people.

#### X. EMERGENCY RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Early in 1968, the Council's staff organization completed a Basic Plan for Emergency Resources Management and Economic Stabilization. Patterned after an example furnished to all States by the Federal Office of Emergency Preparedness, this document sets forth the policies, practices and procedures to be followed in the conservation and use of basic resources and in stabilization of the national economy under attack conditions.

The Plan provides for establishment of a State Emergency Resources Management and Priorities Board charged with responsibility for the over-all direction and control of necessary management and stabilization measures. The Board is comprised of the Administrative Heads of those Commonwealth departments and agencies assigned major emergency management





responsibilities. The Plan is in full conformity with Federal plans and policies and will be implemented only in the event of enemy attack.

This Plan has been distributed to the Office of Emergency Preparedness, the Office of Civil Defense, Region Two, and the Heads of the several Commonwealth Departments and Agencies having been assigned responsibilities for Resource Management in an emergency.

#### XI. MILITARY SUPPORT OF CIVIL DEFENSE

The State Department of Military Affairs assisted by representatives of the State Council of Civil Defense, revised the State Plan for Military Support of Civil Defense in July 1969. This revision was necessary due to the realignment of the three Operational Areas of the State Council of Civil Defense in conformity with Commonwealth Directives. This document provides for the coordinated deployment of military units in support of civil defense under enemy attack or natural disaster conditions.

#### XII. CIVIL DISORDERS

During the biennium, Council staff employees closely worked with representatives of the Department of Military Affairs, the Pennsylvania State Police and other Commonwealth departments and agencies in the revision and updating of plans for the control of possible civil disorders of major proportions.

In this connection, the Communications network of the State Council of Civil Defense was utilized by the Pennsylvania State Police for the purpose of having a Commander's conference-type call to State Police Headquarters throughout the Commonwealth.



The role of State, county and local civil defense organizations in civil disorders remains unchanged. All now stand ready to extend emergency support and assistance in civil disorders to appropriate offices and agencies, as requested.

#### XIII. PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

The Council carried out its basic activity program through its staff organization and with Commonwealth appropriations augmented by Federal grants-in-aid. Agency expenditures for the biennium totaled \$1,299,560, including \$708,635 in State and \$590,925 in Federal funds.

In addition to the basic planning and organization activities described in Sections II through XII, above, the Council staff organization, comprising 52 employees, provided general advice and assistance to county and local civil defense organizations throughout the State. This was done both in semi-annual group meetings and through numerous personal visits regularly made by staff representatives. Further, the group acted as "fiscal and administrative agent" for the Federal Government, in the conduct of the several Federal aid programs cited in Section XIV, below.

#### XIV. FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

During the biennium, Federal contributions toward the cost of civil defense facilities, equipment and supplies totaled \$396,558, including \$113,047 paid to the State and \$283,511 paid through the State to its political subdivisions.

The contributions made to the State (\$113,047) represented, in the main, 50% reimbursement for the cost of lease of warning and communications facilities and the procurement of essential emergency equipment.





On the other hand, the grants to political subdivisions of the State (\$283,511) represented 50% reimbursement for emergency operations centers, essential emergency equipment and recurring maintenance. Eight (8) counties and five (5) other subdivisions received \$134,600 for engineering, design and/or construction of emergency operations centers. More than \$148,000 went to subdivisions for recurring communication and warning expenses.

Over the two-year span, Federal contributions for civil defense personnel and administrative expenses totaled \$1,297,733, including \$446,782 paid to the State and \$850,950 paid through the State to approximately 50 political subdivisions of the Commonwealth. These payments represented 50% reimbursement for expenditures made by the State Council of Civil Defense and participating subdivisions, for the employment of personnel and for general administrative purposes.

Other lesser Federal grants to the Commonwealth included funds paid to the Council (100%) for administration of the Medical Self-Help Training Program (Section VII, above) and for establishment and operation of a Radiation Detection Instrument Calibration and Maintenance Shop. In addition, the Federal Government furnished radiological defense equipment, public information materials and other forms of assistance to the State and its political subdivisions without charge.

#### XV. TESTS

The State Council of Civil Defense participated in two Federal exercises during the biennium. One was a six-day exercise held in November 1968 and the other a five-day test conducted in September of 1969. Both tests were concerned with Increased Readiness Measures that would be taken prior to an emergency. Participating in these tests were a total of 23





political subdivisions. Transmission of required reports was over the Communication System of the State Council of Civil Defense.

In addition, agency staff members actively assisted a number of county civil defense organizations in the development and conduct of exercises designed to test and improve the proficiency of their respective organizations.

#### XVI. EMERGENCY OPERATIONS

The principal emergency operations carried out during the biennium were those associated with the Northeastern Pennsylvania floods of July and August 1969.

At Governor Shafer's request, President Nixon proclaimed the stricken counties a "major disaster area", thus making Federal disaster assistance available both to the State and to county and local governments within the area. Under the provisions of Public Law 875, 81st Congress, as amended, and of the subsequently executed Federal-State Disaster Assistance Agreement, Council staff representatives are responsible for administration of this authorized Federal aid program.

Damages to public and private property as a result of this disaster were estimated at about \$3,350,000. The declaration enables the State and its political subdivisions eligible to receive Federal financial assistance in the emergency repair or replacement of essential public facilities. Federal and State statutes do not permit Federal or State financial assistance to private individuals or organizations who may have suffered damages. Subsequently, 44 applications for Federal financial assistance were filed with the Federal Government in a total amount of \$1,450,688.



The Federal Government also approved an additional \$443,775 in direct assistance wherein Federal agencies, primarily the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, would perform the work in certain disaster areas.

As of the end of the biennium, the Federal Government had given approval for 35 applications totaling some \$781,210, to be paid on a reimbursable basis, upon completion of the work.

Emergency operations of a lesser significance involved the temporary loan of equipment stored in civil defense stockpiles. In all, 11 political subdivisions were furnished emergency engineering equipment required to meet "water emergencies" of various types. This equipment included 4 large purification units, 11 high capacity pumps and more than two miles of 8-inch diameter aluminum pipe required for emergency pumping operations.

In addition, the State Council of Civil Defense actively assisted 14 counties that were faced with emergencies as a result of floods, ice jams, tornadoes, thunderstorms, oil refinery fire, and 2 aircraft crashes.

